



NEWS RELEASE

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Jan. 22, 2015

Encino Doctor Sentenced to Jail for Unlawfully Prescribing Drugs

A 69-year-old Encino physician was sentenced today to two years in jail for prescribing various narcotic drugs without a legitimate medical need, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Dennis Landin sentenced Dr. Yahya Hedvat to a total of seven years, but suspended five. He ordered the Encino physician, who operated a medical clinic called "Urgent Care," to surrender to court on Feb. 18 to begin serving his sentence.

In November, Hedvat pleaded no contest to all 11 counts contained in two cases, BA428107 and BA414896. He also admitted the allegation that he was out on bail when a second case was filed in August.

Deputy District Attorneys John Niedermann and Emily Street with the Major Narcotics Division prosecuted both cases.

Hedvat was first charged in October 2013 with unlawfully prescribing controlled substances, including hydrocodone, suboxone and clonazepam, without a legitimate medical need in a 10-count Grand Jury indictment.

After voluntarily surrendering his DEA license to prescribe controlled substances, Hedvat agreed to sell additional drugs, including Norco and Ativan, to an undercover agent with the California Medical Board on Aug. 8.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety.